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"Chronic shortage"

Need for preachers again is top missionary request

By Erich Bridges

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Southern Baptist missionaries in 96 countries are asking for 1,750 new co-workers, with preachers, church starters and other evangelism specialists again topping the list.

Missionaries worldwide annually submit job requests to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board outlining priority personnel needs. FMB staffers met Sept. 16 and 17 to review the request for 1983, and began a six month consultation on how to end the chronic shortage of evangelism workers.

About 68 percent of the job descriptions call for preachers, pastors, church developers, seminary teachers and other leadership trainers. The requests also reflect critical need for medical missionaries and student workers. And there is 64 percent in-

crease in calls for missionary associates—missionaries who begin work between the ages of 35 and 60 and serve renewable four-year terms. Approximately 150 of the requests are for two-year journeymen and special project workers.

... Year after year of low response to missions among Southern Baptist preachers could create an "entire force of specialists"

"We don't need people out there doing their job without doing THE job" of evangelism, Charles Bryan told the group. Bryan, senior vice president for overseas operations, stressed that

missionaries with primary assignments other than evangelism meet "legitimate, bonafide needs," and spread the gospel as they work. But he warned that year after year of low response to missions among Southern Baptist preachers could create an "entire force of specialists" on foreign fields and move Southern Baptist missions away from direct evangelism.

In 1981 the Foreign Mission Board appointed a record 44 "general evangelists," the term for missionary preachers and church starters. But 375 were requested. This year requests number 392. Twenty-four general evangelists had been appointed through September.

Worldwide, the need for missionary physicians has grown more critical. Top priority requests call for a pediatrician for Jordan, a hospital staff physician for Zimbabwe, surgeons for Ghana and Indonesia, an internist for

India, and physicians with general medical-surgical skills for Thailand and Yemen.

Davis Saunders, director for eastern and southern Africa, said the government of Zimbabwe has indicated it may not allow any new Southern Baptist nurses or other medical workers to enter the country until the staff physician assignment at Sanyati Baptist Hospital is filled.

Student workers are requested for Lome, Togo, where a new Baptist Student Center opened in January, and Nigeria, where the government plans to open public universities in every state.

Another factor affecting job requests is missionary retirements. As the post-World War II generation of missionaries reaches retirement age, the need for replacements for their jobs will increasingly affect the (Continued on page 2)

"Give us this day
our daily bread..."

Matthew 6:11

Observe World Hunger Day

October 10, 1982



Running and passing out

Nearly 20,000 people participated in the Run of the Century in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, as Baptists there attempted to make Brazilians aware of their mission work and 100th anniversary. Volunteers from the United States witnessed and passed out about 9,000 tracts after the event. Media coverage included interviews with Baptist layman Kenneth Cooper, internationally known aerobics specialist who led the run. Cooper is known in Brazil as the man whose training program helped the country's soccer team win the World Cup in 1970. Cooper

and several well known distance runners, including Jeff Wells, associate pastor of Calvary Church, Eugene, Ore., gave their testimonies at exercise classes on Copacabana beach and other places. Wells, who is a world class marathoner, won the 6.2 mile race. Cooper was also featured speaker by businessmen's luncheons and, at a big military base, and at the top military school in the country. (BP) PHOTO By Bob Rice

Half of Americans secularized

SBC growth unique compared to other major denominations

By Jim Lowry

NEW YORK (BP)—Southern Baptists, with increases in membership and territory in the last decade, are unique among mainline U. S. denominations, according to a new church membership study.

Churches and Church Membership in the United States 1980, a cooperative, interdenominational research effort, reveals growth in adherents (full members, their children and other regular participants) in Judeo-Christian religious groups in the U.S. is lagging slightly behind population growth for the first time in 30 years. All mainline denominations except the SBC have experienced significant decreases. Earlier studies were done in 1952 and 1971.

The study, based on data from 111 church bodies (denominations) with 231,708 congregations reporting a membership of 112.5 million, shows Southern Baptists have congregations in 76 percent of the counties in the U.S.

Baptists (Southern Baptists and nine other church bodies) are numerically predominant in more U.S. counties than any other religious group. Baptists have more than 25 percent of the adherents in 1,164 counties, followed by Catholics (963), Methodists (374) and Lutherans (277).

Researchers calculate the 112.5 million adherents counted in the study represent 49.7 percent of the total U.S. population and 91 percent of the adhe-

rents of some religious group. The conclusion that approximately half of all Americans do not adhere to a religious group conforms to numerous other similar surveys.

Two research analysts from the University of Connecticut, William M. Newman and Peter L. Halvorson, said the data indicates an increasing

pluralism in U.S. religion because of the mixture of denominational groups representing diverse cultural and ethnic groups.

According to the researchers, the 35 groups which submitted data for the study represent the "overwhelming majority" of all adherents. "The study (Continued on page 2)

WMU approves plans, launches new building

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)—In a rare called meeting, the Executive Board of Woman's Missionary Union dedicated property and approved plans for a new national headquarters building to be built on "Missionary Ridge," south of Birmingham.

WMU officials also said work on the site development has begun with the partial grading of one-half mile of road. The new building will be occupied by April of 1984.

Citing biblical examples of the significance of mountains, Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union, called the new site of national WMU's headquarters, which will be built on New Hope Mountain, a "signal of God's love to the waiting world."

Leading in ground breaking and site dedication ceremonies, Weatherford

said, "Mountains have always been prominent in lives of God's people."

"Moses went to the mountain, and God gave him the law. The prophets proclaimed God's message from the mountain. In the old days people worshipped on mountains in order to be closer to God and Jesus himself said that a city on top of a hill could not be hidden."

Weatherford called the relocation of the 1.1 million member Southern Baptist auxiliary a venture of faith.

Quoting from Isaiah 54:2-3, Weatherford said that WMU, SBC, is "indeed lengthening its cords and strengthening its stakes." She noted that this was the same text used by William Carey in 1792 when he launched the modern day missionary movement in England.

Standing in a cleared area on which the 140,000 square-foot structure will stand, 21 state WMU presidents who serve on WMU's Executive Board drove in brass stakes.

Weatherford called the stakes symbolic of the faith and support of Baptists in state conventions.

Dorothy E. Sample of Flint, Mich., national president of WMU, SBC, presided at the ceremony.

Members of the Relocation Committee participating were Betty Gilreath of Charlotte, N.C., chairman; Camilla Lowry, Auburn, Ala.; Pattie Dent, Holly Springs, Miss.; Rachel Howard, Doraville, Ga., and WMU, SBC staff members Catherine Allen and Audrey Cowley.

Prayer bill may be resubmitted

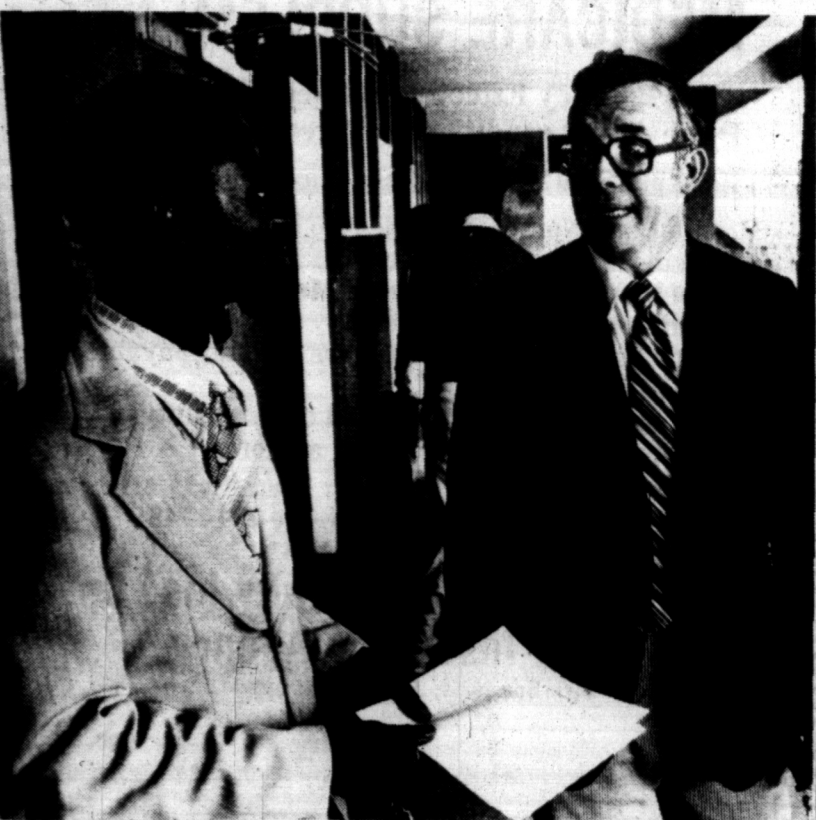
WASHINGTON (BP)—The fate of President Reagan's campaign for a constitutional amendment on prayer in public schools apparently will be passed on to the 98th Congress to convene in January.

Senate Judiciary Committee chairman J. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., has told President Reagan he will push for the amendment in the next Congress, sending another strong signal that the proposal is going nowhere in the remaining days of the 97th Congress.

Thurmond's committee has held three days of hearings on the amendment, but no further action is scheduled.

Reagan's proposal made even less progress in the House of Representatives where it has been bottled up in Judiciary Committee. An effort to force a floor vote by bypassing the committee—called a discharge petition—has produced fewer than 60 of the necessary 218 signatures.

Barron encourages churches to find their own strengths



Mississippi College graduate Jim Barron (right), missionary evangelist for Accra (Ghana) Baptist Association, talks with Martin Abankwah, chairman of deacons at Calvary Baptist Church, Accra. Barron served as the pastor's assistant at the church while it was without a pastor, but today the church thrives under a pastor and lay leadership like Abankwah. (FMB) PHOTO By Joanna B. Pinneo

ACCRA, Ghana—Jim Barron could talk for hours about Baptist churches in the Accra Association on Ghana's southern coast. Calvary, Bethel, Tesano, Tema and others—he tells the story of each church beaming like a proud father.

Barron, who grew up in Clarksdale, Miss., doesn't claim to be the father of any of these churches. But as missionary field evangelist for the association he has worked with each at some stage in its growth. And he is clearly proud of what he has seen happening.

Take Calvary Baptist Church, for instance. A visitor who arrives for Sunday School will find classes meeting everywhere—besides the auditorium, under the stairs and on the porch of the educational building.

During church, he will hear members asked to stand outside, so visitors can come inside and be seated. After church he will find small groups gathered for prayer.

Barron remembers when Calvary was much smaller. Although he was stationed in another part of Ghana at the time, he recalls that in the early '70s Calvary was too weak financially to support one of its own young men in the seminary. Since then it has sponsored several seminary students. Today it sends mission teams of four to six on weekend preaching missions.

Barron and his wife, Linda, first became involved in Calvary Baptist in 1973 when they moved to Accra to be missionary houseparents. Although Calvary had no pastor, Barron and his co-workers felt he should refuse the post so the church would call a Ghanaian pastor. As pastor's assistant, he handled funerals, weddings and baptisms, and attended church meetings. The deacons carried out the pastoral ministry of the church.

When the church finally did call a pastor several years later it was Steven Williams, an American black from Philadelphia who had come to Ghana to work with a Christian music association. An aggressive leader, Williams soon led the church into new programs of stewardship, music, and evangelistic outreach. Besides sending out evangelistic teams, the church started ministries to three hospitals in the city.

Several younger Accra churches have also called for Barron's attention. Bethel is a young Baptist church in one of the city's new subdivisions. The Baptist mission had the foresight to buy land for a church there when the subdivision was being planned. But instead of building a church at that time, they made an agreement with another group

building a school. In return for a donation to the school, the church would be able to use the building on weekends.

The Barrons worked with Bethel for about a year, but today the church is led by a layman who works as chief accountant for the Ghana Arts Council. The 40 members have collected enough money to build the shell of a building on the land secured by the mission. As soon as the walls and roof are up, they plan to move into the new building, finishing the rest as they have the money.

The Baptist church in Tema, which the Barrons helped for about a year-and-a-half, exhibits several traits typical of new churches in the Accra area. The Ghanaian government planned the new city of Tema as Ghana's port. It attracted many young men from farms to industrial jobs in the city.

Single young men in the 18-35 age group have proven to be the group most attracted to Baptist churches, says Barron. Calvary, Bethel, and Tesano in Accra all started as groups of young single men. So the Baptist mission decided to start a church in Tema.

As long as there was a missionary leading the church, it thrived. But when a missionary left, the church dwindled. The young men coming to the church were more interested in attending Christian services, wherever they were, than in building a church.

But several months before the Barrons left for furlough in 1980, Francis Oteng, a young teacher, became pastor of the church. There had been about 75 people attending when the Barrons arrived and about 140 attending a year-and-a-half later. Shortly after Oteng became pastor, attendance jumped to 180 and by the fall of 1981 was averaging 200.

The growth of urban churches like Tema and Calvary has been encouraging, but Barron says growth of the rural churches of the association has been much slower. He feels that his best strategy is to concentrate on strengthening the urban churches and let their members work with the rural churches.

Often a member of an active urban church asks a group of his friends to go with him to his home villages for evangelistic services. Although Barron often goes along as chauffeur, he feels that the people can understand the Ghanaian laymen better than they might understand him.

But then that goes along with his general approach to his job. Time after time, while refusing to take the pastoral role, he has encouraged a church to find the strength among its own people.

Christian Action Commission aids in mission funding

By Paul Jones

If the world's hungry were to line up in single file in front of your door, the line would continue out of sight, over the continent and ocean, around the world, circling the globe 25 times. World hunger is a real problem and, in fact, may be the most immediate real need that more individuals in the world face than any other.

One out of every five deaths in the world is from hunger. In fact, every morning 40,000 people (of which 30,000 are children) awaken to die of hunger. In the past five years more people have died of hunger than were killed in all the wars, revolutions, and murders of the last century. Every minute 28 human beings die of starvation.

In 1976 a group of Southern Baptist Convention agencies began to ask what they could do to keep the issue of world hunger in the minds of the people. The result was World Hunger Day. This year World Hunger Day, Oct. 10, is just one day to emphasize to Southern Baptists in Mississippi and around the world the need for being involved with the hungry of the world.

To that end, the Mississippi Christian Action Commission has developed a Mississippi Plan to deal with world hunger and to assist churches and individuals to care to be directly involved in meeting the needs of the hungry people of the world.

Beginning in January 1983 the Christian Action Commission will have three programs that churches in Mississippi can choose to become a part of.

Mississippi MANNA

Mississippi MANNA (Ministering Aid to Needy Nations Abroad) is a means by which a local church, Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood, or similar church organization can contract with a specific foreign mission field to provide specific assistance with the meeting of certain world hunger needs.

Mississippi MANNA will operate to enable the churches to receive requests from the foreign mission field and to agree to a certain obligation that will assist missionaries in their continuing witness for Christ in their setting.

For churches interested in utilizing this approach, contact should be made

with the Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention for further details, forms, and information necessary to present Mississippi MANNA to the church membership.

Individual rice bowls

Another program will be the availability of individual rice bowls that will allow churches to provide a means by which individuals, families, Sunday School classes, or other groups in the church may collect and contribute funds for world hunger.

The commission will have simulated rice bowls, which are plastic containers into which money can be placed as a means of contributing to world hunger.

These bowls can be shipped in quantities of 25, 50, or 100 and are priced at 45 cents each (the price of one glass of iced tea in a restaurant). This is a means by which individuals in a church may participate without the church taking formal action and committing itself to the procedure. It is a possible activity for missions groups and Sunday School and Church Training groups.

World hunger emphasis envelopes

The commission will have available on or about Jan. 1 World Hunger contribution envelopes. These will allow churches to give monthly, quarterly, or yearly emphasis to a World Hunger collection in the morning or evening worship service.

All monies that are received will go 100 percent for world hunger. There will be no administrative fees withheld nor any service fees withdrawn from the contributions. This is an attempt to make it possible to reach as many people in the world with life-sustaining food and to place it at a point where it can do the most good.

The Christian Action Commission has been in contact with the World Hunger Relief department of the Foreign Mission Board and is working in cooperation with it. John Cheyne has assisted in the formulating of this project and all monies will be forwarded to his agency once received by the Christian Action Commission.

In the months and years that lie ahead, additional projects regarding alternate eating styles, nutritional information and similar material will be

available from the Commission. The Christian Action Commission is the agency of the Mississippi Baptist Convention that will assist the churches in educating the people about world hunger.

For more information, contact Christian Action Commission, Mississippi Baptist Convention, Box 530, Jackson, Miss 39205.

(Paul Jones is executive director of the Christian Action Commission.)

capsules

Carter and rights

ATLANTA (BP)—Former President Jimmy Carter called on government and private sector groups—including churches—to condemn violations of human rights wherever people are oppressed in the world.

Carter spoke to 1,500 Emory University students and faculty at his first in a series of lectures on human rights.

Carter's 35-minute lecture, "Human Rights: Dilemmas and Directions," inaugurated Emory's year-long symposium on human rights and installed Carter in his new role as distinguished professor at Emory.

Vandals strike church

ATLANTA (BP)—Vandals struck the sanctuary of Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church early Sunday morning (Sept. 26), causing damage estimated at \$25,000.

Sixty-two pews were pulled up from the floor and overturned in the main sanctuary. Jim Neyland, minister of education/administration, said seven glass door panes also were broken in the education section of the church. There were no suspects.

Sears cancels HBO

NEW YORK (EP)—Sears Roebuck Inc. has cancelled its contract with Home Box Office due to HBO's "R" rated films, according to Robert Grant, Chairman of American Christian Cause.

One of the nation's largest Christian/Conservative organizations, American Christian Cause led a boycott of Sears in 1980 for offering Playboy magazine through its catalogue. Sears withdrew the offer. ACC had threatened another boycott.

Graham parts Curtain

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (EP)—Evangelist Billy Graham, criticized for his comments during a visit to Moscow, said he'll "preach the Gospel" in two more communist countries next month. Graham told a news conference Sept. 27 at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill that he'll preach in East Germany Oct. 15-25 and in Czechoslovakia Oct. 29.

There also will be opportunities to meet with representatives of the government and of social organizations in both the German Democratic Republic and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

spontaneous time of sharing after the Wednesday evening meeting. Several students shared openly about new commitments to Jesus Christ and new directions that their lives would take because of this. Others confessed a need for prayer and continued revival in their own lives.

The preachers for the various meetings were David Grayson, Gary Sparrow, Manuel Biadog, Kipp Smith, Tony Lambert, Maurice Davis, Danny MacSpadden, and Randy Skaggs. Average attendance for the services was 75.

The advisor to the Ministerial Association is William Clawson.



Working on a dental patient in Honduras are Martin Chaney and Bert Singletary, dental students.

Jackson-area churches help in Honduras

Seven Jackson-area Baptist churches sent 35 persons to Honduras recently to participate in a medical-dental mission project with Charlie Herrington, independent Baptist missionary, who is a Southern Baptist.

Led by James Buie, pastor of First Church, Byram, the team included two dentists, four dental students, a dental assistant, two dental hygienists, one physician, three registered nurses, a pharmacist, a pharmacy student, and a number of lay persons.

Working at the village of Teupasenti, the group filled 6,000 prescriptions, saw 2,000 medical patients, extracted 951 teeth from 249 patients, and saw 30 persons make professions of faith.

Participants were from the following churches: First, Byram; First, Jackson; Hillcrest, Timberlawn, Alta Woods, Daniel Memorial, and Wildwood.

SBC growth

(Continued from page 1)

is the best estimate of church adherence we have," the researchers said, comparing its quality to that of the U.S. census.

The churches were outrunning the population in the years between 1952 and 1971, the researchers said. However, in the years between 1971 and 1980 the population increased at a rate of 4.6 percent while religious adherence increased by only 4.1 percent.

A trend toward smaller congregations was also evident. Some denominations, while declining in total adherents, list more congregations and more counties of representation.

Southern Baptists stand in contrast to this trend, also, because the number of churches with fewer than 300 members has dropped steadily over the period of the three membership studies.

(Lowry writes for the Baptist Sunday School Board.)

Parkway goes on two trips

Earlier this year, members of Parkway Baptist Church, Jackson, participated in two music-related mission trips, one out of the country, the other on the west coast.

Michael Smith, minister of music at the church, coordinated both projects, one to Mexico City, Mexico, the other to San Francisco, Calif.

The Mexico City trip, in March, included preparation of all music in Spanish, attendance at a witnessing school, and learning about Spanish culture and Baptist missions there.

The senior high group including the choir, bell choir, and puppeteers all worked in a revival effort at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Mexico City. Smith reported that Parkway has adopted Ebenezer as a missions partner. Professions of faith totaled 80.

The other trip was to take college and career to paint 19th Avenue Baptist Church in San Francisco in May. And they sang concerts in town. Smith said several in the group felt a call to missions through the experiences in San Francisco.

The more a man talks about himself, the more likely he is to get to lying.

Striker weakens

MARION (EP)—Keston College reports that Lidiya Vashchenko, 31, has been considerably weakened by her renewed hunger strike, which she began on June 27 in support of the demand of her family to be allowed to emigrate to any noncommunist country.

Lidiya was driven to renew her hunger strike by constant delays by the visa office in dealing with the family's application to be stripped of Soviet citizenship, the eventual rejection of that application and the refusal of the visa office to accept any new application until her parents, Peter and Augustina Vashchenko, return to Chernogorsk from the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

Shanghai seventh

HONG KONG (EP)—On July 25, Shanghai's seventh Protestant church reopened after being closed since the Cultural Revolution in 1966. An inaugural service was held, drawing about 700 people who overflowed into a courtyard to listen to the ceremony over loudspeakers.

Western sources quoted a Protestant official who mentioned tentative plans to open two more churches in Shanghai before Christmas. Eventually, the city will have as many as 20 Protestant places of worship. At present, Shanghai has more churches than any other city in China, according to Chinese Around the World based in Hong Kong.

After the fire

NAIROBI, Kenya (BP)—Southern Baptist mission personnel and Africans distributed about \$5,000 worth of food and blankets to destitute victims of a fire which destroyed part of Nairobi's Mathare Valley slum area.

Nairobi city councilman Z. W. Ndururu Kiboro, who personally donated \$500, praised Baptists for being the first group to help 4,000 victims, mostly children, left homeless when the fire gutted about an acre of the makeshift shantytown. "Other organizations are just talking about helping," Kiboro said. "You Baptists are doing something."

The fire destroyed a medical clinic operated by the National Christian Council of Kenya, but stopped three feet short of a clinic operated by furloughing Southern Baptist missionary physician John Adams of Texas. The Mathare Valley Baptist Church meets in the Baptist clinic.



David Grayson preaches at Carey.

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Grady Cothen hospitalized for tests, minor surgery

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Baptist Sunday School Board president Grady C. Cothen entered a Nashville hospital

Sept. 26 for a series of exhaustive tests and minor corrective surgery.

Cothen, 62, entered St. Thomas hospital after experiencing continuing health problems. No evidence of any problem related to Cothen's 1980 stomach surgery for cancer was indicated.

He was expected to be released after a stay of three to five days.

Because of continuing medical problems, Cothen asked board trustees in August for medical retirement, effective March 1, 1984. The trustees elected a seven-member presidential search committee and adopted guidelines for selecting Cothen's successor by February 1983 or as soon thereafter as possible.

WCC has student revival

By Tom Herron
Carey BSU director

The campus of William Carey College in Hattiesburg experienced a real taste of revival. Led by the students themselves, there was a new awareness of God's presence and the daily walk with him.

The Student Led Revival was held September 20-23. This was the second year that such an event has been sponsored by the Baptist Student Union and the Ministerial Association. Different students led each evening, either by preaching, directing the music, or sharing testimonies.

God's Spirit was evident in each service, but was most obvious during a

Need for preachers

(Continued from page 1)
growth of the total mission force. Retirements numbered 25 in 1981, but will likely average more than 50 per year by the late 1980s.

In Europe and the Middle East approaching missionary retirements make new appointments essential for several countries. Priority requests include a business manager at the School of Health Sciences in Gaza; a bookstore manager in Fez, Morocco, and a church planter-developer in Belgium.

Forget electricity

In the Toma area of Upper Volta, new believers await a field preacher-church planter. "This is bush, and it'll take a bush man," area director John Mills cautioned. "If you need electricity and running water, forget it." But house-worship groups already meet in 13 villages in the area, Mills added.

In West Africa, pioneer missionaries in Equatorial Guinea and Gambia plead for evangelism specialists and a public health worker. Southern Baptists entered Equatorial Guinea in 1981 and Gambia this year; only one missionary couple serves in each country.

(Bridges writes for the FMB.)

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION BOARD

Cooperative Program Receipts

Month	1981	% of Total	1982	% of Total	Increase (Decrease)	% Increase (Decrease)
January	\$1,122,637	8.9	\$1,076,552	7.7	\$ (46,085)	(4.1)
February	971,195	7.8	1,196,121	8.6	224,926	23.2
March	772,323	6.1	1,146,091	8.2	373,768	48.4
April	1,198,756	9.6	1,145,609	8.2	(53,147)	(4.4)
May	897,954	7.2	913,153	6.6	15,199	1.7
June	1,167,917	9.3	1,287,260	9.3	119,343	10.2
July	1,104,865	8.9	1,103,737	7.9	(1,128)	--
August	808,675	6.4	1,015,698	7.3	207,023	25.6
September	1,236,857	9.8	1,301,167	9.4	64,310	5.2
TOTAL	\$9,281,179	74.0	\$10,185,388	73.2	\$ 904,209	9.7
Budget for 9 Months			\$10,440,375			
Over (Under)			\$ (254,987)			
TOTAL BUDGET	\$12,536,549		\$13,920,500		\$1,383,951	11.0

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BR2

Paraguay asks for evangelism team (3 to 7) for Jan. '83

Among the requests for involvement in the partnership arrangement with the three nations of the Rio de la Plata comes one from Paraguay for an evangelism team of three to seven persons. The request is for preachers and musicians, and, if possible, a physician and a dentist. The team would work for two to three weeks in the Miriam Willis social center.

The Miriam Willis social center is in the Chacarita section of Asuncion, which readers will remember was flooded a few months ago. It is a slum area lying right on the Paraguay River. The social center is a Baptist goodwill center in the area. According to missionaries, the physical and spiritual needs are great.

About the same time there has been a request for evangelism teams for Uruguay to work in the city of San Jose. The request is for four to six people who would split up with two to each team holding neighborhood revivals. It would take eight campaigns to cover the city.

Other requests are as follows:

Argentina

Microfilmer—one or two persons—International Baptist Theological Seminary—one or two weeks during Aug. 1 to Dec. 5 in 1982 or 1983.

Camp construction—12 to 15 persons—Before November

Church and pastor's home construction—8 to 10 persons—Before November

Construction of chapel—6 to 8 persons—Before November

Teaching children—5 to 6 persons—Before November

Music group—10 to 15 persons—Before November

Installation of ceilings on communications center—as many as possible—as quickly as possible

Construction of education building—8 to 10 persons—June 1983

Evangelistic team (evangelist, organist, soloist, lay person)—4 people

Construction work and evangelism—6 persons—Immediately or January

Creative activities teacher—3

persons—Immediately or August 1983

Evangelism and visitation—up to 10 persons—Immediately

Construction of church building and furniture—8 persons—March or April 1984

Music group—Up to 20 persons—Masonry and painting—4 persons—Immediately or July 1983

Evangelist—1 person—October

Camp construction—6 to 12 persons

General repairs on Seminary buildings—5 persons—January 1983

Painters at Goodwill Center—2 persons—January 1983

Evangelism (chalktalks, orientation, training) 6 persons—October 1982, February 1983

Paraguay

Bricklayer—two to four persons—build small chapel in village—before end of 1982.

Bricklayer—two to four persons—construct building at Baptist camp—as soon as possible.

Evangelism team—three to seven persons—January or February, 1983

Musicians—4 to 30 persons—April 1983

Religious Education teachers—4 to 6 persons—July 1983

Bricklayers, electrician—2 to 4 persons—October, November, or December

Music evangelism—10 to 15 persons

Boiler Mechanic—1 person—As soon as possible

Hospital dietitian—1 person—As soon as possible

Secondary teacher—1 person—Immediately

Elementary teacher—1 person—Immediately

Anesthesiology instruction—1 person—Immediately

Radio technician—1 person—As soon as possible

Uruguay

Singing group—10 to 20 persons—April 1983

Quartet and instrumental group—4 to 9 persons—join 12-member Baptist choir of Uruguay to sing Christmas

carols in Spanish—Dec. 11 to 21, 1982

Evangelistic teams—4 to 6 persons—neighborhood revivals—Feb. 15, 1983

Carpentry and evangelism—4 to 6 persons

Auto mechanic—1 person

Construction—2 to 8 persons—Through November

Agricultural engineer—1 person—Immediately

Personal evangelists—5 persons—December

BSU evangelistic team (Music—10 weeks) 10 to 15 persons—May through August 1983

Pavilion money needed from state RAs

The Mississippi Baptist Brotherhood department is asking Royal Ambassador groups and Baptist Men's organizations to continue to underwrite the building of the chapel pavilion at Central Hills Baptist Retreat to Kosciusko.

Built in 1981, the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's executive committee "loaned" the money to pay for the project. Total cost was \$25,000.

The understanding was that the Baptist boys and men would raise the money to pay back the building costs. Thus far, only about \$4,000 has been forwarded to the Brotherhood department from RA chapters and churches around the state.

Jim Didlake, who directs Royal Ambassador work for Mississippi Baptists, suggests a number of ways the organizations could raise the money: work days, bike-a-thons, recycling collections, or special offerings.

Didlake reports that the top RA chapter in overall giving will receive recognition and a plaque. Also, the top three chapters in per capita giving will receive plaques and special recognition at Royal Ambassador Day in 1983.

Mississippi Baptist Activities

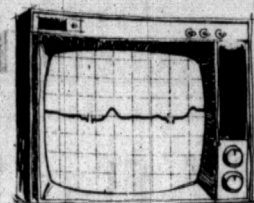
- Oct. 10 World Hunger Day (CAC Emphasis)
- October—Cooperative Program Month (Stewardship Emphasis)
- Oct. 11 Associational Acteens Planning - Group Training; FBC, Coffeeville; 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (WMU)
- Oct. 12 Associational Acteens Planning - Group Training; Emmanuel BC, Greenwood; 6:30-8:30 p.m. (WMU)
- Oct. 14 Associational Acteens Planning—Group Training; FBC, Hattiesburg; 6:30-8:30 p.m. (WMU)
- Oct. 15-17 Mississippi Baptist Conference of the Deaf; Camp Garaywa, Clinton; 7 p.m., 15th-17 p.m. (CoMi)
- Oct. 16 Associational Acteens Planning — Group Training; Broadmoor BC, Jackson; 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (WMU)

Texas author will speak at librarians' banquet

Phyllis Stillwell Prokop, author from Houston, Texas and a writer of a monthly column in *Mature Living*, will be the banquet speaker at the Mississippi Church Media Library Workshop at First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Oct. 22 and 23. The banquet will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday.



Mrs. Prokop received an M.A. in English from the University of Houston and B.A. in modern language from the University of Oklahoma. She is the author of eight books. Two of these are: *Three-Ingredient Cookbook* (Broadman) and *How to Wake Up Singing* (Broadman). She has also written newspaper columns, magazine articles, and



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Dear Intensive Care:

There is much hurt in so many families. How can we learn how to forgive and teach our children to do so?

Home is the place where you can make mistakes and learn the art of forgiveness. Forgiveness is easily offered in families on an intellectual level but is difficult to do on the feeling level. To forgive means to accept the humanness and imperfection of family members. Though God does forgive and forget, we humans find the latter very hard to do. Hurtful experiences have a way of forcing themselves into our memory along with guilt feelings because we haven't been able to forget. This is especially true for most Christians when we have wronged another. It is difficult to forgive ourselves. "How could I have been that stupid?" we ask ourselves over and over.

Jesus said forgiveness of God depends upon our forgiving those who have "trespassed against us." Does this mean forgiveness is a trade-off? Not so. Until we have forgiven those who have sinned against us and also ourselves for sinning against some-

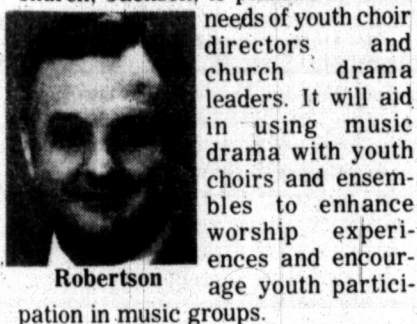
one, we cannot feel that we have appropriated the grace of God who has really already forgiven us, though our confession of sin is a part of the cleansing, 1 John 1:9.

Openness in the family tends to develop the art of forgiveness. Parents may find it necessary to apologize to a child for misunderstandings or inappropriate discipline. This makes it easier for children to own and admit their mistakes. The ability to accept the forgiveness of God depends upon how we have been taught about him. If he is the Father who wants the best for us, thought we were worthy of his sacrifice at Calvary, then we can see him as the waiting Father (Luke 15), ready to forgive. Not to accept his forgiveness is to defy him in unbelief and deny our faith. To sum it up, reflect on Ephesians 4:32. "Be ye kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you."

Address inquiries to Intensive Care, Baptist Record, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

Youth music drama workshop at Broadmoor

The Youth Music Drama Workshop scheduled for Oct. 22-23 at Broadmoor Church, Jackson, is planned to meet needs of youth choir directors and church drama leaders. It will aid in using music drama with youth choirs and ensembles to enhance worship experiences and encourage youth participation in music groups.



Everett Robertson, drama consultant with the recreation department, BSSB, will serve as the workshop leader. Robertson has served as director and manager of theatrical groups, as well as a youth worker and minister of music. He is compiler and editor of *Using Puppetry in the Church*. Puppet Scripts for use at Church, Extra Dimensions in Church Drama and is the author and editor of *Introduction to Church Drama*.

The workshop will begin with a creative music drama worship service at 7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 22. It will be led by a youth drama group made up of 7-12th graders for various Jackson area churches and the Joyful Sound Ensemble of Broadmoor Church.

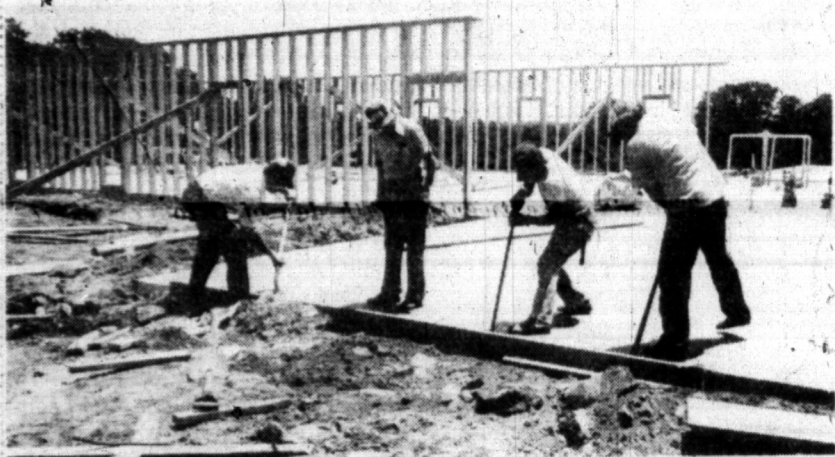
The Saturday morning session will include a two and one-half hour lab experience. Youth ensembles from Bay Springs Church; First, Morton; Alta Woods, Jackson; First, Clinton; and the youth choir of Broadmoor will each present a music selection.

Robertson will demonstrate the technique of using drama with the musical presentations.

The Saturday afternoon session will allow time for worship participants to develop, stage, direct, and present original drama ideas with vocal, choral, and instrumental music. The workshop will conclude at 3 p.m. Saturday.

There will be no charge or pre-registration for this event sponsored by the Church Music department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

For more information concerning the workshop contact: Miss Susan Clark, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, or phone 968-3800, ext. 3874.



West Union builds in Okla.

A group of 36 members of West Union Baptist Church, Garriere, spent a week in early July launching the construction of a new church plant for Crestview Baptist Church, Oklahoma City. Many of the women and young people conducted backyard Bible clubs and did survey work plus helping the men who focused on laying the concrete slab for the foundation and rough in framing. The building will provide a 175-seat auditorium and educational space. Using all volunteer labor, the church was expected to be built for the cost of materials only at about \$120,000. Pictured from left are Durwood Baucum, Oliver Barnes (HMB volunteer service corps building superintendent from Chattanooga; Bobby Kelly, and Van Loveless. William G. Stephens is West Union pastor.

Devotional

Do it now

By Larry Black
Minister of music, FBC, Jackson

This three word slogan is placed on the desk of a leading executive. The thought is, if there is something important to do—Do It Now, don't procrastinate. In Michael Le Baef's best selling book, *Working Smart*, he writes, "the procrastinator fills his life with many anxieties" by putting off what he knows he should do. Dale Carnegie once wrote, "One of the most tragic things I know about human nature is that all of us tend to put off living. We are all dreaming of some magical rose garden over the horizon—instead of enjoying the roses that are blooming outside our windows today."

The Bible says "now is the accepted time; now is the day of salvation." (2 Corinthians 6:2). We as Christians are so often ineffective, unhappy, joyless, and frustrated because we put off doing the things we know are spiritual right for us. The scripture says, "Remember, too, that knowing what is right to do and then not doing it is a sin." (James 4:17).

Let me suggest three reasons for all of us to stop putting it off and get on with "doing good."

1) **For our own sake.** The devil would have every Christian to feel defeated and discouraged. Have you ever seen a defeated Christian win someone to Jesus? So when we put off doing the things we know we should do we are falling into Satan's trap. So let's stop practicing sin, read the Bible, increase our prayer life, be a friend to sinners, be faithful in our stewardship, and with God's help we can be victorious. "Greater is he that is in me than he that is in the world." (1 John 4:4).

2) **For other's sake.** Those that love us—our mates, our children, our parents, our relatives, our friends—all need for us to show them the way. Lead by example. Someone once said, "More is caught than is taught." Let the joy of being a Christian who lives through the circumstances be a reality in your life. All of those who love you and look to you as an example will be blessed by it.

3) **For heaven's sake.** The Bible teaches us that we will all one day stand before Christ. With the apostle Paul, we all want him to say, "Well done you good and faithful servant." (Matthew 25:21) When we stand there and the works of this life are revealed, what a tragedy it will be to realize all the blessings that God had in store for us if we had only claimed them. Also, we will be rewarded according to our deeds in this life. I don't want to be empty-handed, do you?

Some years ago this story appeared in the *Atlanta Constitution*. In a small town in south Alabama a busy father had a five-year-old daughter who wanted him to build her a small playhouse. He was too busy each time she asked and would say, "I'll do it later, sweetheart." Each time the little girl could reply, "Me want it now, Daddy." On one of the father's trips out of town, the little girl became ill with a fever and was rushed to the hospital. The father rushed home to be with his daughter. As he held her feverish hand, he talked with her and told her when she got well he would build her that playhouse she had been asking for. The little girl died. The father went into a state of shock and grief. He did build that playhouse—but over the grave of his little girl. The words of his daughter haunted him for the rest of his life—"Me want it now, Daddy."

Let our lives not be filled with what we wish we had done for our Lord and for others, but rather with God's help let's "Do It Now."



Black

Howard E. Spell Chair to be established at MC

CLINTON — Howard E. Spell, who served for almost four decades in different positions at Mississippi College, will be honored at the 1982 Homecoming luncheon sponsored by the Alumni Association on Saturday, Oct. 16. There will be an announcement at that time of an endowed chair in the department of religion being established in his honor.

David Grant, pastor of Broadmoor Church in Jackson, is serving as chairman of the group, that has initiated the chair. The Howard E. Spell Endowed Chair will be their way of honoring a professor who is considered by many students, alumni and friends as Mr. Mississippi College.

Spell first started teaching at the college in 1927, serving as an instructor in Spanish for five years. He returned to the college in 1941 as professor of Bible and religious education. In 1947 he was named academic dean and served in that position until 1969, when he returned to teaching and remained on the faculty until retirement in 1973.

All of Spell's former students are invited to join him at the Homecoming luncheon on Oct. 16 at 12:30 p.m. in the A. E. Wood Coliseum. Family and friends will be seated together. Fol-

lowing the lunch, the Bible department will host a reception in his honor in the Reserve Lounge of the B. C. Rogers Student Center at 2:30 p.m. Luncheon tickets are \$7 each.

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Editorials . . .

The collective voice of Baptists

A very vital and dynamic link in what Baptists are doing in missions endeavors around the world, including all over Mississippi and across the nation, is the annual Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Baptists are doing things. In fact, we are doing so many things that sometimes it all seems to become commonplace.

But it is not commonplace at all. It is alive. It is vibrant. It is exciting. It is finite human beings at work in concert with the infinite Lord of all creation.

The main cog in it all for Mississippi Baptists between the local church and the mission fields all over the world is the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

It is Nov. 8, 9, and 10 at First Baptist Church in Jackson.

This is not to ignore the vital impor-

ance of the local association as it coordinates the efforts of the local churches in ministering to the missions needs of the immediate area. There is no more important mission field on earth than the one found just outside the church building.

As the massive effort to carry a witness to the ends of the earth begins to gather momentum, however, the state convention becomes the agency where finances, manpower, and concepts come together in powerful form to be honed into a witnessing force without parallel in human experience to burst forth in an explosion of missions efforts that carry our witness to the farthest reaches of the globe.

This is too big a thing to shrug off. Mississippi Baptists all are a part of this power that causes such an explo-

sion. We need to be present in sizeable numbers to help mold and energize the explosion that we will set off in Mississippi.

If messengers to the convention have not already been elected, they should be soon. Every church that has members who could possibly take time to attend the convention should elect as many as it is eligible to send or however many could attend up to that number.

The constitution of the Mississippi Baptist Convention establishes the criterion for determining the number of messengers allowed. Each church is allowed two messengers automatically. Actually, the two are eligible from a membership of 100 or fraction of that amount. After the total membership has gone past 100 the church is allowed one additional messenger for

each 100 members or major fraction of that amount. The total number of messengers from any church is 10.

The emphasis in the second portion of the membership statement is on the word "major." For the first 100 members or any fraction of that many the church is allowed two messengers. After the first 100, the church is allowed one messenger for each 100 or major fraction of the number.

There is no more important business that goes on than the Mississippi Baptist Convention. It is Baptists gathering to give their collective voice to ways and means of doing the Lord's work. We are all a part of it, and it is a part of us all. We need to be present in as large a number as possible to have a part in the voice of witnessing to the ends of the earth.

The hungry are always hungry

Oct. 10 is World Hunger Day, a day set aside to call attention to the desperate plight of a great deal of the world's population that never gets enough to eat.

In the United States the national past-time is trying to figure how to lose weight. There are people all over the world who would be happy to try to cope with that situation. They would feel a great deal better about their circumstances if they were able to eat enough once a month so that their hunger would go away just for the moment.

World Hunger Day in Mississippi is sponsored by the Christian Action Commission. Money that is made available in response to this promotion will be channeled to the hungry of the

world through the Foreign Mission Board. This agency is our best vehicle for determining where the need is the greatest and what is the best procedure for meeting the need.

Readers will find information elsewhere in this issue that will indicate how to help meet the need.

Though it is not a pleasant memory, the writer once was in a situation when for an extended period there was not nearly enough to eat. There were two bowls of soup and one piece of bread each day. And while we didn't know when the situation would change, there was almost assurance that it would change if we could last that long. Not all did last, but the end came six months from the beginning with the end of fighting in Europe during World War II.

One hundred seventy-five out of 200 who began the six months' sojourn in that place walked away from it at the end. Some died from hunger in the meantime.

The hunger was always present. The thoughts from first awakening in the morning until one was able to go to sleep at night were of food. There were few considerations given to family and home. The uppermost thought day in and day out was of food. It was a soul-wrenching experience, but it was over in six months.

There are millions of people in the world who are born into that sort of existence and spend the entirety of whatever life they have in it. There is absolutely no hope of circumstances ever changing. For them, hunger is not

a pain that will go away after a while. Hunger must be one of life's worst experiences.

We have so much food that we waste enough to feed the world. But while there are many in the world who would be delighted to have our table scraps, there is no way to make the transfer. We can give money, however. It is a desperate need. There is no way to paint a graphic enough picture or give adequate testimony of the need. It is beyond the comprehension of most of us, but it is there.

Let us try to conceive of the magnitude of the circumstance and give accordingly. It is not possible to give enough, but whatever is given will make the circumstances better.—DTM

Guest opinion . . .

Drunk driving epidemic spurs response

By Ronald D. Sisk

(Editor's note: The following article was prepared by the Christian Life Commission on the nationwide drunk driving epidemic and current efforts to stop drunk drivers who cause death and destruction on the nation's streets and highways.)

Thirty-six-year-old Barbara Moores of Nashville, Tennessee did not live to celebrate her son Willie's fourteenth birthday, April 24. Nor was she around for her daughter Tessa's eighteenth birthday two days later.

Instead, Willie spent his birthday making preparations for his mother's funeral, and Tessa marked hers at the funeral.

Early in the morning on April 24, Barbara Moores became one more death statistic in an epidemic crime wave. A twenty-year-old man, with a backseat strewn with empty beer cans, crossed the center line and hit Mrs. Moores' car head on.

The crime is drunk driving.

The result is 26,000 deaths, a million injuries, and incalculable damages to families like the Moores every year. Losses to the economy from drunk drivers reach an estimated annual figure of \$5 billion.

Chances of being killed by a drunk driver are 25 percent greater than those of losing life from all other forms of violent crime combined. "We're talking about a crime that claims more victims than homicide, a crime that injures more people than those who commit assaults with deadly weapons," says Candy Lightner, the California mother who founded Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD).

Lightner's own daughter Carl was killed two years ago by a drunk driver with two prior convictions who was out on bail after a third arrest for the same offense.

There are some 1.2 million arrests for drunk driving every year. Even so, only one out of every 2,000 drunk drivers is ever caught.

Many who are caught get off with

little or no penalty. In Oklahoma City in October 1981, 170 out of 175 drunk drivers arrested had their charges reduced or dismissed.

In San Diego County, California, there were 28,000 arrests for drunk driving in 1980, but only 5 percent of those arrested were tried for their offense. Most drunk drivers avoided alcohol-related conviction by pleading guilty to lesser charges.

A generally lenient public attitude toward drunk drivers has been a large part of the problem.

"For too long," says Senator Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island, "drunk driving has been socially acceptable and even condoned as a part of our American 'macho' image."

Certainly many well-known people do drink and drive. Entertainer Johnny Carson and noted lawyer F.

Lee Bailey were both recently charged with drunk driving on the same weekend. Country singer George Jones and television newsman Charles Kuralt have both faced similar charges. (Jones twice in Mississippi).

Laws in 24 states do not even prohibit drinking while actually behind the wheel. Unless it can be proved he was drunk, the young man's drinking while driving on the night he killed Barbara Moores was legal in Tennessee.

Lafayette, La., has a popular new drive-in bar called The Daiquiri Factory, which serves mixed drinks to go. Until recently, lawmakers and law enforcers tended to reflect basically lenient public sentiments about drunk driving. Those sentiments, however, have been undergoing a dramatic change.

As one Massachusetts police official

said in a recent *TIME* magazine article, "The party's over."

Across the country, groups like MADD and RID (Remove Intoxicated Drivers) have sprung up to lobby for tough laws and strict enforcement. Often they are staffed by those like Lightner who have lost family members as victims of drunk drivers.

Senator Pell became concerned with the issue after two of his staff members were killed by drunk drivers in separate accidents last year. Pell has introduced comprehensive federal legislation on drunk driving in the Senate.

He and 150 of his colleagues in Congress joined in the call which led to President Reagan's formation this spring of a presidential commission to study drunk driving.

Twenty-two states have enacted new drunk driving laws in the past year. Such statutes are pending in several other states.

In Nashville, where Barbara Moores died, Circuit Judge Rose Cantrell had already begun a judicial crackdown on drunk drivers. In March she revoked at one sitting the licenses of 13 chronic offenders. Another day that month she ordered 39 offenders to serve two-day jail terms.

The epidemic which killed Barbara Moores still rages out of control. Americans still die at the hands of drunk drivers at the rate of one Vietnam war every two years.

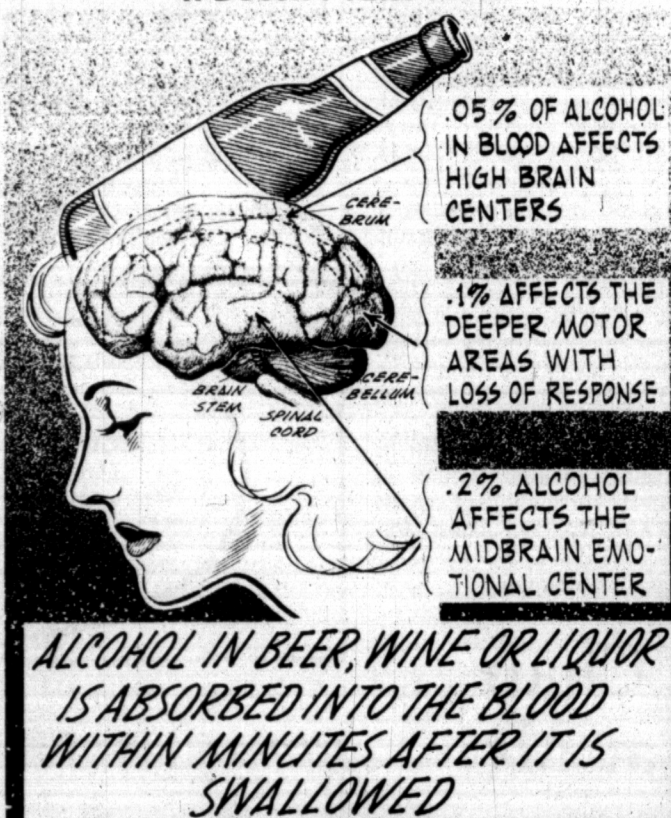
Barbara won't be around for Willie's next birthday. But for the first time in a long time there is hope that the epidemic which killed her will be stopped.

Sisk is director of program development for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission with a major assignment in education and action related to alcohol and other drugs.

To be kind to the kind is civility;
To be unkind to the unkind is heathenism;
To be unkind to the kind is Satanic;
To be kind to the unkind is Christian.

Live and let live is not enough; live and help live is not too much.—Orin E. Madison

It Doesn't Take Much



PARTNERS THROUGH THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Packing for Argentina

Saturday I went fishing with W. D. He caught 17 while I caught three. But I caught the first one, and the biggest one.

I am writing this ten days before I leave for South America, and if you think I have my suitcase packed and ready to go, guess again. After traveling to 25 countries and 48 states, I should know how to pack by now. I hate to admit it, but I don't. I have learned this, though. It's wise to take as few clothes as possible. But how do you choose which ones? Will the weather be hot or cold? When it's fall here, it's spring in Argentina.

Ever since Mississippi adopted the Rio de la Plata Baptists as partners in missions, I've been wanting to be a part of some volunteer mission project in Uruguay, Paraguay, or Argentina. I can't construct buildings—I can't even nail a nail—and I can't lead music, so what talent could I offer? I love kids, though I don't have any (perhaps because I don't have any?), so I'm going to teach a Bible study for missionary kids while their parents are in a MasterLife Conference. Four other women who also will teach are going with me to a Baptist camp near Cordoba, Argentina. They are Pattie Dent of Holly Springs (state WMU president); Lola Autry of Whippoorwill Valley at Hickory Flat; Donna Durr of Clinton, Acteens director at my church, Morrison Heights; and Joan Peterson, retired kindergarten teacher from Pensacola. We'll need to lead some recreational and crafts activities, too, we're told. I'm not very crafty, but the others are, so I'll let you know in a few weeks how it all turned out.

One packing trick I learned enroute to Israel was that folding each garment into a plastic bag will decrease wrinkling. Also customs agents can see through the bags and won't have to turn everything topsy-turvy. Two things I could not be without are a medium-sized shoulder bag and broad-heeled walking shoes. A shoulder bag too big is like a millstone about the neck.

We can be allowed two bags each, the airline said, with 70 lbs. per bag. Already the teaching supplies I've bought (we're going at our own expense) and odds and ends I have for various missionaries weigh 60 lbs.—no clothes included. My patient, kind,

longsuffering husband is a part of this project, too, for he's heard all about it from start to finish. He helps me make the big decisions, like Should I take This or That? He spent part of our 27th wedding anniversary with me at the Metrocenter shopping for a footlocker to transport supplies in. And he's the one who takes my luggage to the car and sets it on the scales at the airport. (I hate to see the face of the missionary who meets us in Buenos Aires when he, or she, sees all that poundage we'll be dragging in! And I do mean dragging.)

As I stand and stare at the growing pile beside the suitcase, I listen to Spanish records, hoping some word of it will stick to my brain. The telephone rings, but this time it's good news from Mama's hospital tests. I write a letter. I study a while, I cook supper. I sleep a bit, go to work, then home, and begin again. Will I ever get this packing done? The television is on. The dog is barking at a squirrel.

In London, I recall, there's a church called the Church of Silence. It holds no services, but is a place where people go to be quiet, and to pray. There's an old saying, "Still waters run deep but the babbling brook is shallow." Along that line, Harleigh M. Rosenberger wrote, "Life grows more shallow when we rush about from one pursuit to another. Depth comes in those moments when we sit with ourselves, when in the quietness God comes and sits with us."

I needed that time on the lake Saturday, a time to watch golden butterflies glide across the October sky, a time to be still and know that he is God. Now I can get on with my packing.

Committee seeks 'outstanding' state alumnus

For the second year, Mississippi's Southwestern Seminary Alumni will be choosing an outstanding alumnus for 1982. Bill Hardy from First Baptist Church, Columbus, is chairman of the selection committee which is seeking nominations for the honor.

Letters of recommendation and biographical supporting data may be sent to Bill Hardy at First Baptist Church, Columbus, Mississippi, 39701.

Letters to the Editor

Appreciation for Olander

Editor:

Some of us are delighted to know that Bro. Joe Olander is being given generous, and well deserved, treatment in "Faces and Places" by Anne Washburn McWilliams, in the current issues of *The Baptist Record*.

He is a man of great integrity. It was my pleasure to work with him in The American Legion of Mississippi for 13 years, and that great organization thinks Joe Olander is a gem of a gentleman, in every sense of the word.

Likewise, those of us who have migrated to Lovely Louisiana think highly of the Baptist paper of Mississippi. Keep up the good work.

Ivor Clark, pastor
Kedron Baptist Church
Amite, Louisiana 70422

Successful anniversary

Editor:

Our 150th Anniversary was a great success, even more than we had anticipated!

Each of us at First Baptist would like to send a special thanks for the article printed in the September 9 issue regarding this very important event in the life of our church. This meant a great deal to all of the congregation.

Paul D. Aultman, pastor
Ocean Springs

"Dear Lord, hurry . . ."

Editor:

I cut my teeth on the nightly news. In those days (early 60's) it was Vietnam and then Watergate. We thought that was bad.

My grandmother (Hettie Finley) thought when Jesus commanded us to

Watch he was talking about the National News. I guess he did mean to be aware of what's happening on this Earth. To Watch the events leading up to his return. So I watched the news at least two times a day. I still watch (force of habit) but now for the first time in all the blood-shed and tragedy I can see a plan being worked out. The events described in Isaiah's, Ezekiel's, and Zechariah's prophecy are being acted out on a stage. When the Israelis accidentally fell into the Russian Embassy in Lebanon recently my heart stopped. Another close call like that one, and we'll all be reciting Zephaniah 2:23 and Isaiah 26:20.

And then I feel ashamed. We who have good food in our stomachs and nice homes shouldn't mourn the passing of this world. We should be praying constantly for Jesus' speedy return. The world is in travail. I'm afraid

the labor is going to be much harder before the rebirth.

Dear Lord, hurry up, please.
Rebecca Williams
State Line, MS

Search for US-2 workers

Editor:

The Home Mission Board wants to locate all who have served in the US-2 program. If you are a former US-2 worker or if you know a former US-2 worker, please send name and mailing address to:

Miss Mary D. Cannon
Missions Ministries Division
Home Mission Board, SBC
1350 Spring Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30367

The hunter's interest

Editor:

The incident I tell of below occurred during a nightly devotional, and I thought you might like to use it in one of your publications.

My 12-year-old son recently went dove hunting with his grandfather for the first time. I suspected he could grow to like the sport because of his constant chatter about every little detail of the hunt. A few nights later my suspicions were confirmed. I was reading to my son from Genesis 2 where God created every beast of the field and every fowl of the air and brought them to Adam to see what he would name them. At this point my son could contain himself no longer. He raised up and said, "Dove! Pow!"

Bert Nail
Starkville

The Baptist Record

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TUCKERS CROSSING BAPTIST CHURCH's GA recognition service, "God's Beautiful World," was held recently. The following girls received badges: (left to right) Shannon Steverson, Alicia Fessenden, Marie Fessenden, Tara Sumrall, (GA leader, Wanda Smith) Dorothy Fessenden, Shari Bryant, Kay Abbey.



"HIS WAY, MINE" was the theme of the Aug. 15 GA recognition service at First Baptist Church, McComb. GAs who received badges were (1st row from left) Heidi Allen, Lou Ellen Alford, Jennifer Alford, Leticia Causey, Amy Cutrer, Melanie Nix. (2nd row) Catherine Soyars, Lee Jones, Kim McWhite, Shari Jacobs. (3rd row) Angie Williams, Dawn Jones, Rhonda Freshwater, Renee Freshwater, Gretchen Nelson, Kathryn Lipscomb. (4th row) GA leaders, Vicki Williams, Mary Alta Clark, Mary Jones, Mary Freshwater, and GA director, Mary Elizabeth Lipscomb.

Carey trustees meet, note Coast day classes

A joint meeting of the board of trustees and the board of development of William Carey College was held on Sept. 23.

The academic vice president, Milton Wheeler, reported on the three campuses, noting that the addition of a day schedule for the coast classes has received a good response from students. The business program has been successful and will be expanded to include the Master of Business Administration this year, he said.

The New Orleans Nursing School was honored by the news that 100 percent of the generic nursing students passed their state board examinations.

The Hattiesburg campus will begin a new program in military science, led by Major Ed McClelland.

Hugh Dickens, administrative vice president, discussed the 1981-82 financial audit and noted that the college has financially operated in the black for 32 years.

The president's report, from Ralph Noonkester, stated that the school must come up with a "strategy for Carey College in 1983 which insures not only our survival but our effectiveness."

Noonkester also announced that for the first time, William Carey College has been asked to nominate a Rhodes Scholar.

Clary Baptist Church held a GA recognition service Aug. 23. All GAs and their mothers were invited. Girls who received badges were Kelley Seitz, Karen Matthews, Stephanie Roberts, Melinda Redditt, Jessica Stewart, Suzanne Mace, Jackie Munn, Marla Alexander, and Amanda Regan. Nicole Ross, Shellie Summers, Kellie Summers, Shannon Thornton, and Ginger Redditt. Libby Garrett, Tanya Thornton, Kristy Shelton, Kelly Matthews, Tanya Kelso, and Rebecca Davis.

Special recognition was given to Kelly Matthews, who has completed all six Missions Adventures books and will be going into a newly organized Acteens group. For her completion of all required work, Kelly received six badges and an Acteens ring. Mrs. Mary Townsend is the WMU director; Mrs. Kathleen Matthews is GA director.

Winston County Baptists have moved into their new associational Baptist center. The 40 x 40 building was erected for \$20,000, reports the Winston director of missions, Jerry Stevens. The lowest bid they got was \$45,000, he said, but "due to labor donated by individuals from the churches and due to the fact that many merchants and suppliers in Winston County gave discounts on materials, some even giving the materials free gratis," they built for \$20,000. They have bought some equipment and are now raising money for ministry equipment such as a 16-millimeter projector, slides projector, film strip projector, etc. The ground breaking took place in April and the building was occupied in August.



LEIGH McWHITE, left, and ELIZABETH LIPSCOMB, right, were crowned queens at First Baptist Church, McComb, in the first Acteens coronation the church has had in 17 years. Elizabeth was crowned August 15 with the same crown with which her mother was crowned as a GA.

Thanks to Lawrence Countians

Snow won't blow into S.D. church

Baptists of Wolsey, S. D., will not have to sit and shiver while snow blows through the open front of their church this winter. Men from Lawrence County, Miss., have made sure of that.

Expecting a volunteer team to arrive (from another state) with funds and labor, the Wolsey members tore the rotten front off their church and poured a slab for a vestibule to break wintry blasts. That promised team was unable to come, and Wolsey Baptists wondered what to do.

Some Baptists of Lawrence County, Miss., heard about the Wolsey pastor's appeal for help, and took up the challenge. Ten men went (Aug. 28-Sept. 3), with the support of the Direct Missions Fellowship of Lawrence County. They drove straight through, 26 hours, on bus and gas (\$700 plus) supplied by Monticello Baptist Church.

They were at the church Monday morning, Aug. 30, at 7, ready to start, but waited until 10 for materials to arrive. Between then and 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 2, they completed the vestibule, which has in it a pastor's office and extra work space.

Those who made the trip were Charles Shows, Eddie Little, and Gilbert Merrill, New Hebron Church; Joe Sharp, James Earl May, Dennis Daughdrill, Charlie Turnage, and Zeno Cone, Calvary Baptist Church; Jack Griffith, Bethel; and Mike Donahoe, Monticello.

Ron Hatmaker, the Wolsey pastor,

had estimated that the cost would be around \$2,000 for supplies. Foreseeing a possible price rise, the men took a \$2,600 check for supplies—and that was exactly what the supplies cost. Also they took \$275 for their meals. However, the church members fed the men, so they gave the money to the church. They slept in the church building.

Churches which the men represented contributed to the cost of the project. Others making contributions were the Topeka Church, the New Hope Church, and George Lee, Lawrence director of missions.

Pastor Hatmaker wrote afterward to Earl Clark, the pastor at New Hebron: "It was like a shot in the arm when our church received word that you folks really cared about our situation. It was an answer to prayer when we learned that you were coming up here to help us put the front on our building."



The vestibule went up in four days.



The men from Lawrence County who built the vestibule in Wolsey were Charles Shows, Eddie Little, Gilbert Merrill, Joe Sharp, James Earl May, Dennis Daughdrill, Charlie Turnage, Zeno Cone, Jack Griffith, and Mike Donahoe.

Revival Dates

Bethel Church, near Columbus; Oct. 10-15; Lee Hudson and Ralph Bagwell, pastor and minister of music, respectively, at Heritage Baptist Church in Huntsville, Ala., leaders; services 7 nightly. (On Sunday, Oct. 10, the church will have its 30th anniversary celebration with dinner on the grounds followed by a singing service; Bill Webb, pastor.)

Bay Springs Church: Oct. 10-13; weekday services at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.; T. J. Delaughter, former professor of evangelism and later professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at New Orleans Seminary, guest evangelist; music evangelist, J. M. Wood, minister of music, Broadmoor Church, Jackson; Ron Kirkland, pastor.

First, Yazoo City: Oct. 10-13; spiritual growth conference; directed by a team from the International Evangelism Association, Fort Worth, Tex.; adult study directed by Billie Hanks, Jr., president of the association and a former minister-at-large for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association; youth study led by Billy Beacham; music under direction of Billy and Martha Bacon, First Church, Clinton; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7-8:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 to 9:15 p.m.; James F. Yates, pastor. (Those from other churches wishing to register for the conference may contact the church at Box 780, Yazoo City, Miss. 39194, or phone 746-2471.)

Liverpool (Yazoo): Oct. 8-10; 109th anniversary; revival and homecoming; services at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8, and Saturday, Oct. 9; services on Sunday, Oct. 10, at 11 a.m. followed by a covered basket dinner on the grounds and an afternoon service at 1:15 Thomas Peoples of Oak Grove Church, Yazoo County, evangelist; Hal Selby, pastor. (Liverpool was organized Oct. 8, 1873.)

THE VILLAGE VIEW

Baptist Children's Village

P. O. Box 11308 Jackson, MS 39213

Mississippi Baptists can be thankful that **FOUR HUNDRED AND FORTY-FOUR** young people were cared for through our Children's Village during the last year. Lives and families that were helped because you continue to care, and you continue to "be there" to meet those overwhelmingly troubled human beings in the name of our heavenly Father.

Presenting our trustees



James T. Hollingsworth, Hollandale
John Edwards, First, Eudora

"Here We Are," a presentation on Village childcare, is available for use in churches and groups interested in learning more about the work and mission of The Village.



The "Champs," Labor Day '82

SPECIAL PEOPLE who could serve as Village houseparents are urgently needed at this time. Couples or single ladies who sense an interest, a "drawn-ness", to this type of ministry are encouraged to contact Henry Glaze by writing Box 11308, Jackson, Miss., 39213, or by calling (601) 922-2242.

Gifts of Honor and Memory

August 26 - Sept. 25, 1982

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a listing of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special funds.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
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James C. Wiggins
Mr. George Davis Anders
Mr. & Mrs. Lane Cockerham
Mr. H. T. Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Barland
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Mr. & Mrs. Willis H. Morgan
Mrs. Allene W. Hester
Mrs. Martha W. Peacock
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Mrs. Jewell Pace
Mr. Homer Farrell
Mrs. Fern Tate
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Mr. & Mrs. Clayton E. Bain
Father of Mr. Cleo McCormick
Mr. & Mrs. James L. Ray
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Mrs. Sue E. Harris
Father of Mrs. Carolyn Wells
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Noani J. Knight
Mrs. Olga Haik
Elva Gardner
Mr. J. C. Hale
Mrs. Walter B. Scott
"The Meadows"
Lemuel Hanch
Siloam Baptist Church
Mr. W. I. Harper
Mrs. Zelma Triplett
Mrs. Jewel Heard
Miss Nancy Gray
Mrs. Thomas F. Shelton
Mrs. Gertrude Hewes
Mr. & Mrs. Fred W. Johnson
Mrs. Ruth C. Holton
Dolore R. Phillips
Mrs. Bryant Horne, Sr.
Mrs. G. L. Hales
Dr. & Mrs. Charles R. Davis |
|--|---|---|



The Village Alumni Reunion brought old friends together on The India Nunery Campus for "not enough" hours of "catching up" on old times.

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
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Mr. & Mrs. W. H. Merrell
Mr. & Mrs. W. Kelly Pyron
Mr. S. L. Houston
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Tuesday Night Ladies WMU
Mother of Mrs. Eunice Spiller
Mrs. Sue E. Harris
Mrs. Mable Mullen
Mr. & Mrs. G. Duren
Mrs. W. W. Mullen
Naomi J. Knight
Bertha (Mama) Mullins
Mrs. V. C. Mullins
Niece & Nephew of Edith Rowland
(Jo Ann & Bob)
Dr. & Mrs. William T. Everett
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Mrs. Edna M. Sims
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Miss Elsie E. Parker
Mr. John W. Parker
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Mrs. Ruth Parker
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The Baptist Children's Village

P.O. Box 11308, Jackson, Mississippi 39213

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Names In The News...



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AT COLDWATER honored MRS. MARGARET DOUGHERTY, seated, Aug. 21 for fifty years of dedicated service with G.A.s in the church. Jimmy Sartain, pastor, presented Mrs. Dougherty a plaque. Mrs. Cleota Albright, WMU director, read a letter from Marjean Patterson, state WMU executive secretary, thanking Mrs. Dougherty for her efforts through the years. During a reception in her honor, Mrs. Dougherty was presented a letter of appreciation from Mrs. Albright.

Since 1932, she has been a familiar face in every phase of GA work, local, district, and state. She was associational GA director for several years, as well as associational WMU director.

First Church, New Albany, ordained three deacons on Sept. 26: Tommy Barkley, David Duff, and Richard Hardy. Laderel Harrelson, minister of music, presented special music. The pastor, Tom Sumrall, delivered the ordination sermon.

Robert C. Fling, former director of Baptist work in Westchester County, N. Y., and first pastor of the Westchester Baptist Church there, died Sept. 19 in Birmingham, Ala. Services were held Sept. 21 at Elmwood Chapel in Birmingham. He and Mrs. Fling had been members of Mountain Brook Baptist Church in Birmingham since 1978. He retired from the active pastorate at that time, and Mrs. Fling joined the staff of WMU, SBC. She was formerly president of national WMU. Fling was a native of Texas.

Rick Case, student at Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., was recently licensed as a minister by his home church, Briarwood Drive Baptist, Jackson.



DARRELL CLAYTON BAUGHN, center, was licensed to the gospel ministry by Midway Church, Jackson, on Sept. 19. He is a student at Hinds Junior College and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Talmadge Baughn. Presenting the certificate of license to Darrell is Hulon Bilbo, chairman of deacons. On the right is W. Benton Preston, pastor.

James Huffman of Mathiston was guest speaker at Pleasant Hill Church, Calhoun County, on Sept. 18, for a Brotherhood WMU spaghetti supper. He told of his recent mission trip to Haiti.

Bane Alexander, pastor of Hopewell Baptist Church, Pontotoc County, was recently honored on his 25th anniversary as pastor of the church.

Life without mirth is like a lamp without oil.—Sir Walter Scott

Homecomings

Holly Springs Baptist Church, Foxworth: homecoming, Oct. 10; Shelby L. Stephens, speaker; 11 a.m. service followed by dinner on the ground; song service in afternoon with different groups presenting special music.

Lilly Orchard Baptist Church, Lilly Orchard Road, Pascagoula: homecoming, Oct. 17; Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.; Ray Moncrief, former pastor of the church, preaching at 11 a.m. service; dinner on the ground at 12:30 p.m.; afternoon sing featuring the "Melody Tones"; Milton E. Little, pastor.

Scotland (Montgomery): homecoming, Oct. 10; guest speaker for morning service, John Allen Wade, a former interim pastor; dinner on the ground; James S. Allen, pastor.

Wiggins Church (Leake): Oct. 17; Harvest Day; Bible study at 10 a.m.; morning message at 11; lunch served at 12; singing in the afternoon by the local people; Carlton Jones, pastor.

Clear Branch (Rankin): homecoming, Oct. 10; morning speaker, Barney Walker; afternoon services at 1:30, following dinner on the grounds; Roger Lee, pastor.

Braxton Baptist Church: homecoming, Oct. 10; Allen Stephens, former pastor, guest speaker at 11 a.m.; dinner in the church activities building; Charles Guy, pastor.

Shelton (Jones) 75th anniversary; special homecoming activities Oct. 10; speaker for the 11 o'clock service, former pastor Charles Brady; special music by Mr. and Mrs. Bracy Campbell. Afternoon services to include presentation of church history and recognition of former pastors; G. W. Smith, pastor.

McAdams Church (Attala): homecoming, Oct. 10; dinner in the family life building; afternoon of singing by the "Serenities" of Kosciusko and the Youth Handbell Choir of Williamsburg Baptist Church; Sunday School at 10 a.m.; morning worship at 11; lunch at 12; singing at 1:30 p.m.; Joe Anderson, pastor.

New Hope (Leake): homecoming, Oct. 10; Sunday School at 10 a.m.; morning worship at 11 with Woodrow Clark of Clinton as speaker (Clark was pastor at New Hope, 1959-61); dinner on the ground; gospel singing featuring "The Christian Brothers" of Jackson, at 1:30 p.m.; James H. Young, Jr., pastor; David Pickel, music director.

Oak Grove, Lexington (Holmes): Oct. 10; homecoming; John R. (Bob) Woods, pastor, to preach at 11 a.m.; lunch to be served at the church.

A laugh is worth a hundred groans in any market.—Charles Lamb

Bible Book

Concern for Corinthians

By Gene Henderson, pastor
Fairview, Columbus

II Corinthians 1:23-2:11

Paul's explanation about his movement (1:12-2:17) was motivated by his concern for the Corinthians. His concern is especially evident in 1:23-2:11 where he gave his reasons for visiting Corinth and his request concerning corrective action taken toward an offender.

Paul's previous experience with the Corinthians forms the background for 1:23-2:11. Scholars have attempted to reconstruct Paul's contact with Corinth. Most agree that Paul made a "sorrowful visit" which was followed by writing a "painful letter" that is not recorded in Acts. Paul's statements in II Corinthians 1:23-2:4 and 13:1-3 seem to confirm the reconstruction.

I. Paul's reason for not making the intended visit (1:23-2:4)

Paul refrained from making his visit to Corinth because of his concern for the Corinthians. Apparently Paul feared that such a trip would result in unhappiness for the Corinthians. If they were yet proud, arrogant and disobedient, Paul would be forced to correct them (cf. II Cor. 12:20-21). In order to spare them, Paul's plan concerning the intended visit was altered. Paul quickly added that he was not exercising arbitrary authority over the Corinthians. In fact, his actions were intended for their joy as a fellow worker (1:24).

Paul's joy or sorrow was intertwined with the Corinthians. He deduced logically that if he made the visit and the outcome was sorrowful for the Corinthians, he also would have sorrow. Therefore, he decided to write them a letter with the hope that they would have a change of heart before he visited them (2:1-3).

Letter writing might be conceived by some as cowardly. However, it can be therapeutic. Thoughts can be well analyzed when they are written. Also, the one writing can complete his presentation without interruption, something frequently impossible in dialogue. Perhaps Paul's methodology would be helpful today for many who find it difficult to communicate without frustration and anger.

Is it ever easy to correct someone you love? With tears in his eyes Paul wrote things that apparently were true but hard to say about the Corinthians. Paul wrote with a heart broken because of his love for the Corinthians (2:4).

II. Paul's request regarding the offender (2:5-11)

The identity of the offender in 2:5-11 is unknown. It is clear, however, that the congregation had punished him,

and Paul counseled them to restore him to fellowship before harm resulted from the corrective action.

Some have thought the offender to be the immoral man of I Cor. 5:1-5. However, it seems more likely that the offender was a ringleader who opposed Paul on the "sorrowful visit." The congregation felt that Paul was offended. Paul pointed out that all but a part of the congregation had been caused sorrow (2:5). The "part" were those who sided with the ringleader. The action by the "majority" in 2:6 indicates a minority who apparently opposed the punishment.

Whatever the punishment was, Paul felt it was sufficient because it seems to have led the man to repentance. He therefore urged the congregation to act redemptively toward the offender. Paul's basic concern was for the Corinthians, including the offender, and not to protect his own pride. Paul requested the congregation to forgive the offender, to encourage him, and to reaffirm love for him (2:7-8). The Corinthians may have been concerned about offending Paul by restoring the offender. They also may have suffered from the great weakness affecting many churches today—lack of a forgiving spirit. It is always easier to criticize than to correct, to fault rather than to forgive. The church needs to rediscover its ministry of forgiveness. Paul was concerned that the offender would be "devoured" by the devil if the church did not forgive and restore him (2:7).

Paul's purpose for writing the "painful letter" had been to effect redemptive action toward the offender. Paul could not correct him but the congregation could. His purpose also was to test the obedience of the Corinthians. They passed the test proving their obedience to the gospel (2:9).

If the Corinthians were willing to forgive the offender, Paul made known that he already had forgiven him (2:10). In fact, Paul felt that he really had nothing to forgive. His only concern was for the congregation. He knew also that his action was evident to Christ.

Forgiveness was essential to Paul and the Corinthian church. Satan's subtlety was well known the Paul (2:11). The unforgiving spirit opens the way for Satan. Jesus warned against being unforgiving (Mt. 6:14-15). Failure to forgive others prevents one from experiencing the forgiving grace of God. An unforgiving spirit is essentially selfish. Paul demonstrated his great concern for the Corinthians by forgiving them generally and the offender specifically.

Uniform

Remembering the Passover

By Charles S. Davis, associate
professor of Bible, MC

Exodus 11-12

The oldest continuously observed religious festival known to mankind is the Passover. For more than 3,200 years it has been celebrated by the Hebrew people as a memorial to God's saving grace in their exodus from Egypt. Faith cannot live on memory alone; it demands celebrations, both to keep alive the reality of the original experience and to create new vitality in the present moment of worship.

The Passover was the best loved of all Israel's religious feasts. It celebrated her redemption from bondage and her constitution as a nation. In this respect, for the people of Israel it was like Easter and the Fourth of July all wrapped up in one celebration.

I. Plagues prepare for God's Passover

In one of the most dramatic of all Biblical narratives (Exodus 7-12), a series of increasingly severe catastrophes called "plagues" prepared the way for the exodus. The plague accounts should be read as far more than a struggle between two men, Moses and Pharaoh. These "signs and wonders" testified that Yahweh, the God of Israel, was the sovereign Lord of history and creation. He was victorious over the gods worshipped by the Egyptians. Let us note four of these gods and see how the plagues struck at the very heart of Egyptian theology:

(1) The Nile River was the source of life in Egypt, and thus was viewed as a god. When Yahweh turned the river to blood (7:14-24), the false god was defeated.

(2) Animal life was seen as sacred by the Egyptians—not subhuman as we moderns might view it, but superhuman and thus divine. Plague five (9:1-7) struck a death blow not only to the cattle but to this aspect of Egyptian theology.

(3) The sun ultimately received theological priority in Egypt and was worshipped as the supreme god. When darkness triumphed over the sun for three days (ninth plague, 10:21-29), this struck at the very foundations of Egyptian theology.

(4) Pharaoh himself was often referred to in Egyptian writings as "the god." The divinity of Pharaoh was proven false, for the final plague (12:29-30) revealed the mortal limitations of his power in his own family.

II. Passover points to God's providence

Even as the Lord would "pass over" (11:13) the Hebrew homes, he would "pass through" (11:12) the Egyptian

Richard C. Spencer, Jr. has accepted the pastorate of Lowrey Memorial Baptist Church, Blue Mountain. He goes from the pastorate of Concord Baptist Church, Yazoo County. He is a native of Hattiesburg, and was graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi and New Orleans Seminary.

James Scirratt has resigned the pastorate of Woodland Hills Baptist Church, Jackson, to accept the pastorate of Polytechnic Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Tex.

Jerry Pounds has resigned as minister of youth at the Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson, to accept a position at the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., where he will be writing and editing materials for youth in Church Training.

Melvin Daniels is the new pastor of Oak Grove Baptist Church, near Smithdale in the Mississippi Baptist Association. He moved there from Prairieville, La.

Robert T. Gilmore, II has been called as minister of music at Big Ridge Baptist Church, Biloxi. He previously served as minister of music at Frenwood Baptist Church and Pineview Baptist Church, Gulf Coast. He is an honor graduate of University of Southern Mississippi. As a graduate assistant, he has done Master's work at USM and Memphis State, pursuing a double degree in church music and instrumental conducting. Robert M. Carlisle is pastor at Big Ridge.

Harmony Church, Copiah County, has called Mike Pennock as pastor.

Shady Grove Church, Lincoln County, has called Charlie Seale as pastor.

H. Carpenter retires at Roxie

Horace Carpenter retired from the pastorate in September. He has been pastor of the Roxie Baptist Church on two occasions, a total of a little over 17 years there.

He served as pastor of the Sandersville Baptist Church, Jones County, for five years, and he has served Cranfield Baptist Church, Adams County, and Hickory Grove Church, Lamar County.

He and Mrs. Carpenter are making their home in Roxie. He will be available for supply work, interim pastorates, etc. His address is P. O. Box 213, Roxie, Miss., 39661 (phone 322-7798).

Staff Changes

West Laurel Baptist Church, Jones County, has called Troy H. Carter as minister of music and youth. The church honored the Carter family with a reception and pouncing on Aug. 29. Carter goes from Northside Baptist Church, Cullman, Ala. He is a graduate of University of Southern Mississippi and New Orleans Seminary. Roy L. Hamilton is pastor at West Laurel.

Wellman Baptist Church (Lincoln County) has called Tom Middleton, a senior at Mississippi College, as minister of youth and music. Pastor at Wellman is Bob Long.

Richard G. (Jerry) Kennedy was called Aug. 29 as pastor of First Church, Altamonte Springs, Fla. He goes from the pastorate of Walnut Grove Baptist Church, Walnut Grove, Miss.

Victory Baptist Church, Lee County, has called Johnny Hatcher as pastor. The church is constructing a new building.

Joe Wofford has been called as music and youth director at Woolmarket Church, Gulf Coast. He formerly served at Commission Road Baptist Church, in the same association.

A. V. Bailey has been called as pastor of Indian Hills Baptist Church, Lee County.

Arlin Richardson, pastor, dies

Arlin Richardson, 54, of Walnut died Sept. 26, in the Baptist Hospital, Memphis.

He was a Baptist minister, serving as pastor of Harmony Baptist Church in Walnut at the time of his death. He was a native of Tippah County.

Funeral services were held Sept. 27 in Harmony Baptist Church, with burial in Falkner Cemetery. Billy Foley officiated, assisted by Harry Phillips and Lathan Bray.

Richardson leaves his wife, Betty Gay Richardson, Walnut; two daughters, Mrs. Deborah Wilkerson of Booneville and Penne Richardson of Walnut; four brothers; four sisters; and three grandchildren.

SCRAPBOOK

He hears the faintest whisper

When we drive along the highway
On a lovely autumn day
We can see the wondrous beauty
God has always on display—

Pretty leaves of many colors
Waving gently in the breeze
And birds so sweetly singing
As they fly up through the trees.

Flowers blooming by the wayside
Sending fragrance through the air
Cattle grazing in the pastures
Without a worry or a care.

We know that God in heaven
Is looking down upon us all
And he hears the faintest whisper
Of his children when they call.

When shades of night are falling
And the world is out of sight,
We know that he can see and hear
E'en in the darkest night.

He alone can make the sunshine
Or cause the rain to fall,
And he shows his love and mercy
Is sufficient for us all.

—Ethel Reput, West Point

An October Day

If I could ask for a day of my choice
I wouldn't hesitate, I would rejoice
If it were possible for someone to say
"You have been given an October day!"

Oh how beautiful, an October day!
The sky is so blue and so far away
The leaves come tumbling to the ground
In colors of red, gold and brown

There's something about an October day
Brings me closer to God in some special way
The air is so cool and crisp and bright
I know God had a hand in something so right!

—Ruth Norsworthy Crager
State Line, Miss.

Life and Work

Living in Christ

By David McCubbin, associate
pastor, First, Meridian

I John 2:1-17

Having fellowship with God (last week's lesson) is a vital part of "Growing in Faith and Love." Our fellowship with God depends on our realization that sin is a barrier to fellowship, confessing our sins and following Jesus, God's light for our lives. Each of us needs to ask, "Have I confessed my sins? Am I following Jesus, walking in the light rather than in darkness? Am I in fellowship with God?"

This week's lesson should lead us to ask, "How can I be certain of my relationship to Christ? Can there be any assurance in this matter?" John tells us that we can be sure. Assurance is tied to what Jesus has done/is doing and to obedience to his commandments.

Our lesson title is "Living in Christ." In verses 3-6 we read three phrases that mean the same thing and express the idea "Living in Christ." They are "... know him," "... in him" and "... abide in him." Note v. 3a, "And by this we may be sure that we know him" and v. 5b, "By this we may be sure that we are in him." The intent is to help readers to know for sure that they are living in Christ.

There is a connection between fellowship with God and assurance of one's relationship to Christ. The connection is the forgiveness of sin on the basis of Christ's work on our behalf.

John doesn't want his readers to get the wrong impression. Having told his readers that God will faithfully forgive their sins when confessed (1:9) he wants them to understand it doesn't give them license to sin as they please. "My little children" (expressing himself as a concerned father) "I am writing this to you so that you may not sin" (2:1).

Now John concedes that Christians cannot live above sin — "Now if any one does sin ..." (1:2). Here John writes of the continuing work of Christ on the believer's behalf. Christ is both an advocate and the expiation for our sins. An advocate (paraclete) is basically a helper and the word translated expiation (RSV) according to W. T. Conner means to render favorable with the explanation that in this context it means to remove a difficulty so that favor can be bestowed.

In general we are to see that Jesus Christ is the only answer to our sin problem. He is the word concerning God's mercy, forgiveness and acceptance. He is the only way to God. To try to circumvent Christ to get to God we

go loaded with our sins and God's holiness like a brick wall shields Him from us and us from Him.

Assurance of living in Christ (abiding in him) is found in our admission of personal sin, our struggle against it, and our dependency on Christ as our helper, the only one who can remove this difficulty so that God's favor can get through to us. Assurance is tied to what Christ has done and is doing about our sin.

Assurance is tied to obedience of his commandments. "And by this we may be sure that we know him if we keep his commandments. He who says, 'I know him' but disobeys his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (2:3).

Foremost in John's mind as he writes about commandments is Jesus' words about loving others (John 15:12). This is an old commandment in that it was spoken by the Lord at the founding of the Christian movement. It is new in the sense that every Christian is confronted with the necessity of obedience in the present moment. Over and over again, day in and day out we are confronted with fresh opportunities to act out of love for our brother. If in these circumstances we act out of hate, we are being disobedient to his command, we are in darkness and are not being truthful if we claim love for God.

Yes we are to love others (better not stop with just fellow Christians—Matthew 5:43-44) and we are not to love the world or the things in the world (2:15-17). By world John means all that is accessible to us and is in opposition to God or that we can allow to usurp God's place in our lives. Fleshly desires, use of our physical eyes to the exclusion of spiritual sight and pride in acquiring status and material things are set in opposition to love for God. These temporary things can rob us of the eternal.

Assurance comes then in trusting Jesus as the answer to our sin problem and in obediently loving others while we reject the world's ways in favor of God's will.

The essence of friendship. Oh, the comfort, the inexpressible comfort of feeling safe with a person, having neither to weigh thoughts nor measure words, but pouring them all out, just as they are, chaff and grain together, certain that a faithful hand will take and sift them, keep what is worth keeping, and then with the breath of kindness blow the rest away.—Dinah Craik